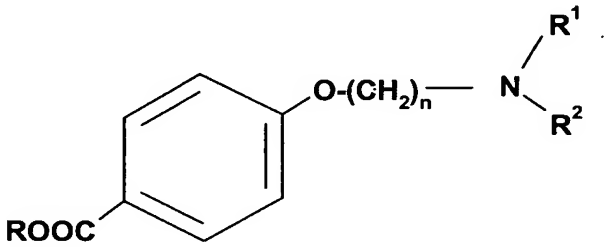
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A process for preparing a compound of formula I



I

wherein;

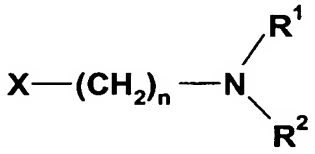
R is C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R^1 and R^2 each are independently C_1-C_4 alkyl, or combine together with the nitrogen atom to which R^1 and R^2 are attached, to form piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, methylpyrrolidinyl, dimethylpyrrolidinyl, morpholino, or 1-hexamethyleneimino; and

n is 2 or 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which comprises the step of:

reacting a haloalkyl amine of formula III

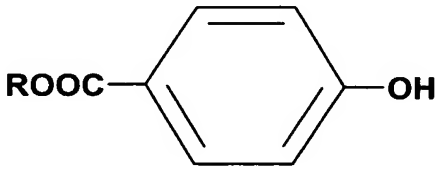


III

wherein;

X is a halogen; and

R^1, R^2, and n are as defined above, with a compound of formula IV



IV

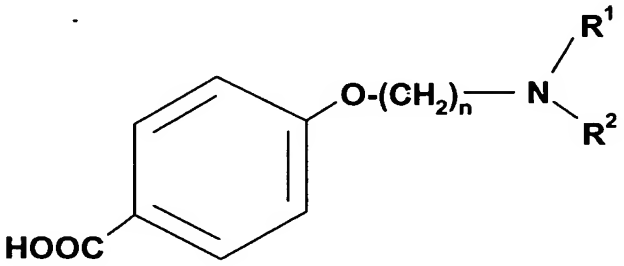
wherein R is C_1-C_6 alkyl, in the presence of a hydrated inorganic base and an appropriate solvent.

2. (Original) The process according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

a) extracting the reaction product of Claim 1 with an aqueous acid; and optionally

b) cleaving the ester of the reaction product from step a) to form an acid compound of formula Ia

B1



Ia

3. (Original) A process according to Claim 1 wherein the hydrated inorganic base is selected from the group consisting of potassium carbonate, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, lithium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, calcium carbonate.

4. (Original) A process according to Claim 1 wherein the solvent is a C_1-C_6 alkyl acetate solvent selected from the group consisting of amyl acetate, isopropyl acetate, isobutyl acetate and ethyl acetate.

5. (Previously Amended) A process according to Claim 1 wherein said C_1-C_6 alkyl acetate solvent is amyl acetate.

6. (Original) A process according to Claim 1 wherein said hydrated inorganic base is a carbonate or bicarbonate salt.

7. (Original) A process according to Claim 6 wherein said carbonate salt is potassium carbonate hydrated with 1-20% water.

8. (Original) A process according to Claim 7 wherein said hydrated potassium carbonate is achieved by adding bulk water.

B1 9. (Original) A process according to Claim 7 wherein said hydrated potassium carbonate is achieved by water of hydration.

10. (Original) A process according to Claim 7 wherein said carbonate salt is potassium carbonate sesquihydrate.

11. (Original) A process according to Claim 1 wherein R^1 and R^2 combine together with the nitrogen atom to which R^1 and R^2 are attached, to form piperidinyl; and

n is 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (Original) A process according to Claim 2 wherein said aqueous acid is hydrochloric acid.

13. Cancelled.

14. (Previously Amended) A process according to Claim 1 wherein;

R^1 and R^2 combine with the nitrogen atom to which R^1 and R^2 are attached, to form a piperidinyl moiety, R^3 and R^4 each are

hydrogen, and n is 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or derivative thereof.

15. Cancelled.